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The Sacramento Star

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Volume 2, Number 16 | Published Alternate Wednesdays for the Women and Men of the Gay and Lesbian Community | December 28, 1983

Council Bans Sexual Orientation Job Discrimination

The Sacramento City Council unanimously voted Dec. 20 to approve changes in the city's equal employment policy statement to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The proposal was submitted by city councilor Dave Shore at the request of the River City Democratic Club.

The changes were as follows:

- added the term "sexual orientation" to the list of discriminatory employment practices;
- added a list of definitions to the affirmative action plan that included the definition of the term "sexual orientation" as "heterosexuality, homosexuality, or bisexuality";
- added language to make a violation of the city's "Equal Employment Opportunity General Policy Statement" a factor under which a person could file an internal discrimination complaint.

The Rev. W.B. Timberlake, lobbyist for the Committee on Moral Concerns, objected to the council's considering the measure during the Christmas holidays. He claimed that churchgoers would have packed the council chambers to protest the change if they hadn't been attending church services.

Councilor Tom Chinn took exception to Timberlake's remarks.

"I am a church-goer and I intend to vote for the resolution because I do not believe in any discrimination whatsoever," Chinn said.

"I think you're reading a heck of a lot more into it than is necessary. It prohibits discrimination, period," he continued.

Lisa Katz, lobbyist for the California National Organization for Women, told the council that the amendments were "a simple and basic human rights issue."

Katz also informed the council that Timberlake's contention that the city should refrain from acting on the issue, leaving it to the Legislature to decide, was contradictory with his testimony to the Legislature. During hearings on AB1, Timberlake testified that it should be left to local government to bar discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Before the vote, councilor Grantland Johnson compared the opponents' arguments to those used to keep blacks from exercising their full civil rights.

The council also voted to support a resolution calling on the Legislature and governor to immediately pass and sign AB1, the Agnos gay/lesbian employment rights bill.

The AB1 resolution passed 7-2, with councilors Doug Pope and Bill Smallman dissenting.

AB1 is pending on the Senate floor and may be considered next week.★

Star Photo by Tim Warford

The Rev. W.B. Timberlake led the opposition to adding sexual orientation to the Sacramento city employment non-discrimination policy at the Dec. 20 city council meeting. Timberlake heads the Rancho Cordova-based Committee on Moral Concerns, a vehemently anti-gay, nominally Christian group.

Star Photo by Tim Warford

Open House Honors AIDS Volunteers

Bill Johnson (left) really got into the holiday spirit at the open house sponsored by the AIDS/KS Foundation Tuesday, Dec. 20. The Foundation's office at 2115 J Street was overflowing with people who gathered to enjoy the lavish hospitality and to honor the dedicated volunteers who work with the Foundation. City Councilor Dave Shore was one of those in attendance, before going on to the City Council meeting at which his proposal to add sexual orientation to the city's employment non-discrimination policy was passed.

NY Campaign Head Quits Over Glenn's Anti-Gay Statements

The chair of the New York state presidential campaign of Senator John Glenn (D-Ohio) resigned December 15 because of Glenn's refusal to support federal gay rights legislation, The Associated Press reported.

Manfred Ohrenstein, minority leader of the New York state Senate, said that Glenn's stand on gay rights endangered his ability to bring together a Democratic consensus to defeat the Republicans.

Glenn "called into question his otherwise superb record on civil and human rights by engaging in a prolonged debate on lesbian and gay rights—an issue which has broad-based support within the national Democratic Party," Ohrenstein said.

Ohrenstein called Glenn a friend and "a good and decent man," but said he had "come to the painful conclusion that I cannot play the role in the campaign that I had set out for myself."

Like all the Democratic presidential candidates except former Florida Governor Reubin Askew, Glenn has said he opposes discrimination against gay people.

But on November 3, Glenn told a forum in New York that he opposed a federal bill to ban discrimination against lesbians and gay men.

"I do not advance or promote homosexuality as a way of life," Glenn said, "nor will I advance or promote it."

And in mid-December, Glenn returned to New York and told a delegation of gay rights leaders that homosexuality in employment might be a matter of choice in such areas as the military, intelligence agencies, and the YMCA.

He also said that the federal government should not dictate the hiring of gay men and lesbians as teachers if communities feel they would not be good role models.

Ginny Apuzzo, executive director of the National Gay Task Force, said that Glenn's "intransigence thrust us into the hardball political arena."

Following Ohrenstein's resignation, the NGTF tried to persuade Glenn's California campaign chair, Assemblymember Richard Katz of Sepulveda, to resign. Katz declined to do so.★

The Sacramento STAR

Reaching Your Community Every Two Weeks!

OPINION

The Last Round In The Fight To Pass AB1

The State Legislature reconvenes the first week in January 1984. One of the bills pending before the State Senate will be AB1, the gay and lesbian employment rights measure sponsored by Assemblymember Art Agnos of San Francisco.

AB1 would add the words "sexual orientation" to the list of reasons in existing law for which a person cannot be discriminated against in employment. These current reasons are race, religion, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical handicap, medical condition, marital status, sex, and age.

AB1 has successfully passed the Assembly Labor and Employment Committee (by a vote of 7-5), the full Assembly (41-36), and the Senate Judiciary Committee (6-4). Twenty-one votes are needed for it to pass the Senate.

Several senators are considered key votes by those close to the effort to pass the bill, either because they have indicated tentatively that they will vote for passage or because they have indicated that they lean toward voting against AB1 but might be open to persuasion.

These senators are Robert G. Beverly, John Garamendi, Bill Lockyer, Ken Maddy, Dan McCorquodale, and Rose Ann Vuich.

It is vitally important to the fight to insure employment protection for lesbians and gay men in California that AB1 pass the Senate and become law.

Each of us in the lesbian/gay community can contribute to the success of that fight by lobbying these senators in favor of AB1.

Although the word "lobbying" may sound rather forbidding, be assured that only a minimum of effort on your part can be a major contribution to the fight to pass AB1.

Here is what you need to do:

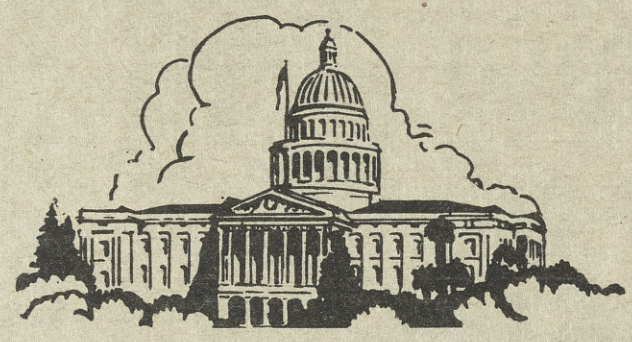
- Write a short letter *right now* to each of the senators named above.
- Address your letter to "Senator (Name), State Capitol, Sacramento 95814."
- In your letter briefly urge the senator to vote for AB1 as a basic protection of human rights.
- You may wish to add a description of a personal experience in which you would have benefited from the existence of such a law.
- Conclude cordially and politely with another appeal to the legislator's sense of decency and dedication to equal protection for all citizens.

Because AB1 could come up for a vote in the Senate at any time, time may be too short for writing letters.

You can call the offices of these senators to register your support for AB1. Here are their telephone numbers:

Sen. Robert Beverly 445-6447
Sen. John Garamendi 445-2407
Sen. Bill Lockyer 445-6671
Sen. Ken Maddy 445-9600
Sen. Dan McCorquodale 445-3104
Sen. Rose Ann Vuich 445-4641

Senator Milton Marks, co-author of AB1 and leader of the Senate fight for its passage, wrote in a recent letter to the lesbian/gay community that AB1 "has a greater chance of passing this year than at any other time in the past."



Marks continued, "I am very encouraged with the progress we have made and I will work to win passage of the bills still pending."

In response to a letter from Sacramento Star editor James Graham, Senator John Garamendi wrote, "Because of this bill's controversial nature, my office has literally received hundreds of letters from conscientious citizens, like yourself, whose opinions I value strongly. For this reason, I am giving serious consideration, study, and thought to AB1 and will most assuredly take your concerns into consideration when this matter comes before me for a vote."

Though this sounds like typical noncommittal doubletalk, we should not be discouraged by it. Legislators pay attention to letters and phone calls.

In the past the gay and lesbian community has not written or called legislators as much as it was in our best interest to, while the opponents of AB1, primarily the so-called "Christian Right Wing," have organized massive, well-funded campaigns against our interests.

Only the conscientiousness and integrity of many legislators have kept our community from suffering worse defeats.

It is time now that we do something for ourselves. As 1984 starts, do yourself and your brothers and sisters a big favor. Call or write the members of the State Senate, especially the key senators listed above, and urge them to vote for AB1.

This is not a religious issue, but it is a moral issue. And the fact is that discrimination for reasons of sexual orientation is immoral.

It is also a human rights issue. Urge these senators to support our fundamental human right to earn a living.★

What The Opposition Says

Richardson Calls AB1 The Biggest AIDS Joke

By SENATOR H.L. RICHARDSON

There are a lot of jokes floating around about AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome); I'm sure you've heard some of them. The biggest joke is Assemblyman Agnos' (D-San Francisco) AB 1, and the laugh may be on the people of California. AB 1 is a bill that would prohibit an employer from firing a homosexual employee because of his sexual kinkiness or prohibit an employer from discriminating against faggots because they prefer to grope with the fellas rather than gals. Am I being a little too verbally graphic for you? Well, think a bit about what homosexuals do to each other and then comment on my verbiage.

Homosexuals are unbelievably promiscuous and are now the prime carriers of a new deadly disease. We know that 70 percent of the AIDS disease is carried by homosexuals. In fact, a recent study by medical researchers at the University of California at San Francisco, found that reported AIDS cases doubled in the first three months of 1983 in that city, compared with the same period last year. It has reached epidemic proportions, and the most frightening thing about AIDS is that it has so many unknown characteristics. Medical authorities know it may be transmitted by sexual contact and blood contact, but it may be transmitted in other ways. In other words, medical authorities do not know all the ways the disease can be transmitted. They do know that it is reaching monumental proportions.

Dr. James Curran, Director of the AIDS Task Force at the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, gave us the bad news, "We are at the horizon of a new epidemic rather than at the peak." He went on to say, "The epidemic will be with us the rest of our lives."

We also know hospital workers react worse to AIDS patients than they do to lepers, because of their fear of contracting the disease from close contact. There is also a problem with hospital workers who may have contracted the disease, or are unaware that they are carriers. Pity the poor patient who would not otherwise come into contact with AIDS. If there is some sort of blood contact or mucus contact, the patient could very well leave the hospital with a far more serious ailment than he or she went in with. Experts have advised that it is probable such contagion could occur in other close contact employment. What is still unknown is how long a person can be a carrier of the disease without knowing it or showing symptoms. The last guess is from 6 months to 3 years!

Let's now suppose that the Agnos Bill, AB 1, becomes law. A restaurateur in San Francisco knows his cook is homosexual and notices some lesions on the back of his hand. He dismisses him, then the cook takes the employer to the Fair Employment and Housing Department and complains he was dismissed because he was homosexual. The

appeal procedure could take 6 months to resolve. In the meantime, this potential, and statistically probable, carrier of AIDS continues his employment. Can food be a carrier of AIDS? Suppose the AIDS carrier cut his finger while slicing the lettuce for your salad? Can one who handles food transmit the disease? The fact is, we don't know! Salad in San Francisco anyone?

We don't know if AIDS can be transmitted in this way, but until we do know for sure, I think it is stupid to pass legislation which will force employers to keep or hire known homosexuals, especially in hospital related industries, blood banks, restaurants or other places where the customer has close contact with a potential carrier of AIDS.

San Francisco is known for its restaurants and fine foods. It would be a tragedy to force a San Francisco restaurateur to keep employed a suspected carrier of this dreaded disease.

Am I conjuring up an extreme situation that might not happen? I hope so, but I've never been one to take chances with other people's lives.★

H.L. "Bill" Richardson, a Republican, represents the 25th District in the California State Senate. One of the major figures of the New Right, he is a founder of Gun Owners of America.

SAGA II Offers Gratitude And Congratulations

Editor:

The Sacramento Athletic Games Association (SAGA II) Board of Directors would like to extend a special thanks to all those individuals and organizations who have supported and contributed to SAGA II during our inaugural year. SAGA II wishes you all a happy holiday season and an even better 1984.

SAGA II also congratulates four of its members nominated for Triumphs '83 awards: Paul Coke, sports; Linda Wood, sports; Ernie Brown, community volunteer; and Norm Frohwein, sports. Linda Wood and Norm Frohwein received recognition and awards for their work with the Sacramento Women's Sports League and SAGA II, respectively.

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Gay Pride Has Been The Key To Success For Atlas Savings & Loan

"Three years ago all the big banks in San Francisco were highly skeptical about the idea of a financial institution owned and operated by gay men and lesbians," said John A. Schmidt, chairman of the board of Atlas Savings and Loan Association. "Now they are frankly envious of our phenomenal success and ask us how we did it!"

Atlas Savings, the world's first gay and lesbian owned financial institution, has barely been open for business two years and has already seen its assets grow from $2.5 million to more than $85 million. In recent weeks, two major developments have further indicated Atlas' growth: 1) Atlas stock, which went on the market over two years ago, will soon split three shares for two; and 2) construction has begun on a spectacular $1 million branch office located on Castro Street, where many gay men and women live and work.

Atlas Savings has a central office on San Francisco's main thoroughfare, Market Street, and a small branch on Eighteenth Street near Castro. The huge new facility being built on Castro Street will be across from the landmark Castro movie theater and located near the MUNI Metro subway station. Future plans call for a satellite branch in downtown San Francisco, which is a center of international banking and finance.

As a public corporation, stock in Atlas Savings is owned by thousands of gays with investors and depositors in 48 of the 50 states, and several foreign countries. When Atlas stock went on the market it was selling for $12.50 per share; current book value has risen to $19 per share. Traditionally when stock splits, the per share price goes down—Atlas will probably then sell for $11 or $12 per share.

The primary market for Atlas Savings is the 150,000 gay men and women who live and work in the San Francisco Bay Area. Atlas board chairman John A. Schmidt said, "Atlas was founded by the gay community because many financial institutions overlooked gay people in the past. We felt the time was right for a gay savings and loan that could make fellow gays more comfortable."

Schmidt gave the example of two gay men or two lesbians coming in to apply for a loan to buy a home. "With us, there doesn't have to be any lies about the relationship and no embarrassment. We understand their lifestyle and if they qualify for the loan, we want to give it to them."

"This savings and loan not only shows the financial clout of gay people," continues Schmidt, "but also destroys the myth that gays are not good managers of their money. Atlas provides many of the services of other financial institutions, but I feel we add the personal touch."

In its first two years of business, Atlas has not only enjoyed enthusiastic support from gay men and women in the San Francisco Bay Area, but also has attracted depositors across the nation.

Schmidt said, "We are so pleased that gay people everywhere are financially supporting us. They call or write us and ask how they can open checking or savings accounts, and are often surprised that we can also offer money market accounts, IRA and Keough plans for the self-employed, and certifications of deposit."

Schmidt added, "Since many people bank by mail anyway, we encourage out-of-state customers to do at least some of their banking in San Francisco. Gays want to show their pride in our institution and be part of us, even if they live in Chicago or Houston or San Diego. This gay pride is much of the key to our success."

For more information, write to Atlas Savings and Loan Association, 1967 Market Street, Department K, San Francisco, CA 94103.★

Star Photo by Tim Warford

¡Feliz Navidad!

Co-chairpersons Angel Arellano and Chica Rodriguez of La Raza del Ambiente helped to pack the Christmas food baskets the group gave to eight needy families Thursday, Dec. 22. In addition to canned goods and other staples donated by Raza members and other supporters in the lesbian/gay community, each basket contained a fresh roasting chicken for Christmas dinner.

The group's next major project is a Valentine's Ball, set for Saturday, February 11, at The Forum. This will be a dressy to formal occasion, with music provided by an eight-piece band. Tickets will sell for $5 in advance and $7 at the door, and will be available in January at The Forum and from members of La Raza del Ambiente.

La Raza del Ambiente is a social and support group for Hispanic and Native American gay men and lesbians. All interested women and men are invited to its meetings. For more information call Chica Rodriguez at 444-6371 or Angel Arellano at 446-9066.

First Banquet/Meeting For Sacramento Gay Fathers Scheduled For January 8

The Sacramento Gay Fathers will hold their first annual meeting and banquet on Sunday, January 8, at 6 p.m. at the Incredible Edible Place. The meeting will mark the official beginning of the group, which has been meeting informally for about a year.

The Sacramento Gay Fathers is a support and advocacy group for gay men who are parents. Activities include small group discussions, potlucks, and outings for fathers and their children. Future plans include community outreach education, cooperative child care, personal and legal counseling/referral, and legislative advocacy.

Membership in Sacramento Gay Fathers is open to all gay men who are parents, or otherwise find themselves in the role of parent. For more information or reservations for the January 8 banquet, please call Ron Gray or Val Fernandez at 441-4594, or Ken Atchison at 392-4128.★

Sacramento's First United Methodist Church Slates Seminars On Homophobia

A series of four Sunday evening seminars on homophobia and homosexuality will be presented at Sacramento's First United Methodist Church, 2100 J Street, on January 22 and 29, and February 3 and 26, from 5 to 7 p.m. in the church's Terrace Room. The seminars, led by pastors John Moore and Marilyn Ericksen of First United Methodist Church, will be open to the public.

The seminars will cover such topics as "Homophobia—The Fear of Homosexuality," "The Bible, the Church, and Homosexuality," "Human and Civil Rights," and "Human Sexuality and Ethics."

The seminar on January 29 will be led by members of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays and of Affirmation, a support group affiliated with the United Methodist Church and now organizing locally.

According to Ericksen, "It is very exciting to be dealing with these issues at the local level."

She explained that the General Conference of the United Methodist Church, the church's national organization, and the annual Conference of the Northern California and Nevada churches have been dealing with homophobia and homosexuality "from the top down."

They established a Task Force on Homophobia, of which Ericksen has been a member for three years.

At about the same time the local church decided to present the seminars on homophobia, she said, two lesbian members of the church approached the pastors about a supportive place to hold meetings of a new local chapter of Affirmation. As a result, the seminars will also serve to help prepare the local congregation to host the gay/lesbian support group.

Ericksen said First United Methodist hopes to attract to the seminars a wide range of local Christians interested in homophobia and homosexuality. For more information, contact her at 446-5025.★

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☐ **ONE TEENAGER IN TEN: Writings by gay and lesbian youth,** edited by Ann Heron, $4.00. One teenager in ten is gay; here, twenty-six young people tell their stories: of coming to terms with being different, of the decision how – and whether – to tell friends and parents, and what the consequences were.

☐ **THE BUTTERSCOTCH PRINCE,** by Richard Hall, $5.00. When Cordell's best friend and ex-lover is murdered, the only clue is one that the police seem to consider too kinky to follow up on. So Cordell decides to track down the killer himself – with results far different from what he had expected.

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MUSIC

Johannes Brahms, 1833-1897

A 150th Birthday Look At Recordings

By JAMES K. GRAHAM

In 1983 the music world is celebrating the 150th anniversary of the birth of composer Johannes Brahms. Born in 1833 in Hamburg, Brahms eventually settled in Vienna, where he lived until his death in 1897.

In an age of musical giants—Wagner, Berlioz, Liszt, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, Verdi—Brahms was one of the greatest. His compositions remain staples of the repertoire for orchestras, chamber musicians, and solo pianists. And he has been elevated to the musical pantheon as one of the Three B's—Bach and Beethoven being the other two.

Brahms was something of an anomaly in the Romantic age. According to the *Penguin Dictionary of Music,* he composed no opera, and did not follow [the] widely prevalent Lisztian ideal of program music, but developed the forms of Beethoven's period and showed notable rhythmic originality.

His music has great grandeur and depth; at the same time, much of it has an unpretentious kind of vitality that is very appealing. Though his orchestrations were basically conservative, using the usual instruments of the symphony orchestra, they have an effective range of color and emotion.

Above all, it seems to me, the music of Brahms sings. Although it can be ponderous and heavy in the wrong hands, a sympathetic interpreter can bring out its essential life-enhancing energy.

Certain works by Brahms are essentials in any library of classical music. But as with most of the major composers, there are many recordings from which to choose. In this 150th birthday commemoration, I will recommend some recordings of some of these works.

These recommendations naturally reflect my taste and preferences. Naming a recording here does not imply that no others are good, and omission of your favorite performance does not mean that I condemn it. On the contrary, I encourage people to listen to a variety of recordings, and simply offer my recommendations as places to start.

Symphonies/Orchestral Music

Brahms composed four symphonies, waiting until he was 52 to write the first one. In C Minor, it is Opus 68. Two fine recordings are those of Bruno Walter with the Columbia Symphony Orchestra (Columbia Odyssey Y-30311) and Josef Krips leading the Vienna Philharmonic (London Stereo Treasury STS-15144).

The Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 73, is probably my favorite. Sir Adrian Boult, conducting the London Philharmonic on Angel (now apparently deleted); Sir Thomas Beecham, conducting the Royal Philharmonic on Seraphim S-60083; and Pierre Monteux, conducting the Vienna Philharmonic (London STS-15192), all capture the spirit of this genial and ebullient piece.

The Symphony No. 3 in F Major, Op. 90, can be difficult to bring off effectively. Unless carefully judged, it can seem disjointed, with the last movement almost appearing as an afterthought. Two good recordings are by the Chicago Symphony, the older, more dramatic one conducted by Fritz Reiner on RCA Gold Seal AGL1-1280, and the newer, somewhat lighter-textured one led by James Levine on RCA Red Seal ARL1-2097.

Reiner, with the Royal Philharmonic, also leads an excellent version of the Fourth Symphony in E Minor, Opus 98 (Quintessence 7182), as does Bruno Walter with the Columbia Symphony (Odyssey Y-32373).

Your Brahms collection would not be complete without recordings of the *Tragic Overture,* the *Academic Festival Overture,* and the *Variations on a Theme of Haydn.* Often they are unwittingly collected as fillers on discs bought to get other works, but good performances of all three are available conveniently on one record, performed by the Columbia Symphony under the direction of Bruno Walter (Odyssey Y-30851).

Concertos

The two piano concertos are large, grand, symphonically-conceived works, with many meltingly beautiful passages as well. Most of the major pianists of our day have recorded them—Arrau, Rubinstein, Brendel, Dichter, Ashkenazy, Serkin, Gilels, Barenboim. In addition, older recordings by such great performers as Artur Schnabel, Vladimir Horowitz, Wilhelm Backhaus, Walter Gieseking, and Solomon are available.

Personal favorites include Julius Katchen with Pierre Monteux conducting the London Symphony in the Piano Concerto No. 1 in D Minor, Opus 15 (London STS-15209), Horowitz with Toscanini conducting the NBC Symphony in the Piano Concerto No. 2 in B Flat Major, Opus 83 (various RCA albums), and Solomon with the Philharmonia Orchestra, Rafael Kubelik conducting in No. 1 and Issay Dobrowen conducting in No. 2 (Turnabout Historical Series or an imported EMI set—SLS 5094).

Brahms' Violin Concerto in D Major, Opus 77, is ranked as one of the greatest for that instrument, along with Beethoven's. Although, unlike some merely pyrotechnical concertos, it is a serious and thoughtful piece, it does require a solo violinist with consummate technical facility. As a result, it is a favorite and enjoys many excellent recordings.

For years the standard by which other recordings have been judged is Heifetz's with the Chicago Symphony conducted by Fritz Reiner. It is available in a number of RCA issues, including an audiophile half-speed-mastered version. Another excellent performance, recently remastered and reissued at a bargain price, is that by Henryk Szeryng with Pierre Monteux conducting the London Symphony (RCA Gold Seal AGL1-5216).

The Double Concerto for Violin and Cello, Op. 102, in A Minor, is an attractive piece, but somewhat lightweight in comparison with the other concerti, probably as a result of trying to balance the two solo instruments against the orchestra. An excellent recording features violinist Henryk Szeryng and cellist Janos Starker with the Amsterdam Concertgebouw Orchestra conducted by Bernard Haitink (Philips 6500137). Just released is a performance by Herbert von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic with violinist Ann-Sophie Mutter and cellist Antonio Meneses (soloist with the Sacramento Symphony November 19-21) on Deutsche Grammophon 410 603-1.

Piano Music

Brahms first gained renown for his piano music. Among his earliest works, with opus numbers 1, 2, and 5, are the sonatas. The young pianist Krystian Zimerman has recently recorded all three for Deutsche Grammophon. They are available as part of the 11-record box of the complete keyboard music in DG's mammoth Brahms Edition, as well as on single discs. The veteran pianist Claudio Arrau (80 years old this year) has also recorded the second and third sonatas, in beautiful performances and splendid sonics, on Philips (9500066 and 6500377).

Arrau's disc of the Sonata No. 2 includes the Variations on a Theme of Paganini, Opus 35. These are also paired with the Variations on a Theme by Handel, Op. 24, in good performances by Julius Katchen on a budget-priced London Stereo Treasury disc (STS-15150).

Most of the rest of Brahms' works for piano are included in a very fine two-disc set of monophonic recordings from the mid-1950's by Walter Gieseking (Seraphim IB-6117). This album contains the Eight Pieces, Op. 76; Rhapsodies, Op. 79; Fantasies, Op. 116; Six Pieces, Op. 118; and Four Pieces, Op. 119. It is an excellent basic collection. Many stereo recordings by other prominent pianists provide alternate selections for this repertoire.

The set of 21 Hungarian Dances was originally written for two players at the same piano, and there are several recordings of that version. More popular are the transcriptions for full orchestra made by Brahms and others. Part of the Deutsche Grammophon Brahms Edition is a brilliant new digital recording by Claudio Arrau leading the Vienna Philharmonic (2560100).

Chamber Music

A fourth genre in which Brahms excelled was chamber music. He composed a great variety for a number of instrumental combinations, including the three very appealing Quartets for Piano and Strings. Artur Rubinstein collaborated with the Guarneri Quartet to make lively and gleaming recordings of the Piano Quartets for RCA (LSC-6188).

Rudolf Serkin, whose performance of the Piano Concerto No. 1 is a little too percussive for my taste, teamed up recently with master cellist Mstislav Rostropovich to record the two Sonatas for Piano and Cello for Deutsche Grammophon's Brahms Edition (2532073, digital).

There are also two Sonatas for Viola and Piano, originally written for clarinet and piano, but I prefer the viola version. However, both recordings that I recommend are on the low-priced Seraphim label, so you might try both: violist William Primrose with pianist Rudolf Firkusny on a monophonic disc (60011) and clarinetist Gervase De Peyer with pianist Daniel Barenboim on a stereo disc (S-60302).

A little out of the ordinary, but absolutely captivating, is the Trio for Horn, Violin, and Piano. What seems to be an unlikely combination of sonorities proves to be a delight to the ears, especially as played by Barry Tuckwell (probably the world's greatest horn player), violinist Itzhak Perlman, and pianist Vladimir Ashkenazy (London 6628).

A more traditional combination of instruments is found in the three Trios for Violin, Cello, and Piano. The complete set by Isaac Stern, Leonard Rose, and Eugene Istomin fits into a two-disc album (Columbia M2S-760), while those by Henryk Szeryng, Pierre Fournier, and Artur Rubinstein require three records but also give you Schumann's Trio No. 1 (RCA AARL3-0138).

Perhaps most traditional of all are the three Sonatas for Violin and Piano and the three String Quartets. The sonatas receive bold, masterful performances by violinist Toshiya Eto and pianist William Masselos in a Nonesuch two-record set (73034), and the Cleveland Quartet shines in the quartets on RCA (VCS-7102, two discs).★

Lesbian Task Force Sets Tahoe Bus Trip

The NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force is sponsoring a fun-filled bus trip to South Lake Tahoe on Sunday, Jan. 15, 1984. Departure time from Sacramento is 8 a.m. and the return time to Sacramento is 8 p.m.

The cost per person is $18, with a casino rebate of $14 cash and $4 in food coupons, making the bus ticket actually free. Save your money, get your winter clothes out, and make reservations now.

Call Marcy at 921-2835 for more information.

(To those of you who are ERA supporters, the NOW boycott of unratified states is no longer in effect. No state is ratified.)★

Night Of Music & Comedy Rescheduled For Feb. 3

A "Night of Music and Comedy" will be presented on Friday, February 3, 1984 by the Campaign for Family Partner Benefits at 8:00 p.m. in the Sierra II Theater in Sacramento.

Originally scheduled for the following evening, the date has been changed to accommodate two of the evening's performers, Lea DeLaria and Jeanne Strobel.

DeLaria was invited to perform Feb. 4 at the Cable Car Awards ceremony, San Francisco's gay equivalent of the Tony awards. It is rumored that DeLaria will be nominated for an award as Entertainer of the Year.

This engagement in Sacramento follows an early January performing tour with stops in Miami, Miami Beach and Fort Lauderdale. In addition, in Florida, DeLaria and Strobel will be performing for the international gay organization, the David Society.

These lesbian performers can be seen regularly in San Francisco at the Valencia Rose.

Also appearing that evening will be Romanovsky and Phillips, two singer/songwriters who combine humorous gay-identified lyrics with vocal harmonies. They first began performing as the musical break during Gay Comedy Night at the Valencia Rose in San Francisco, and have since performed for the Lesbian and Gay parades in San Francisco (1982) and Boston (1983). Their series of concerts at the Valencia Rose, "A Gay Evening of Music and Mime," with mime artist Marj Bly, was nominated for a 1982 Cable Car Award for "Outstanding Cabaret Entertainment."

Ron Romanovsky is a self-taught musician who began writing songs at the age of 15. Four years later, he moved to San Francisco and began performing. Inspired by the strong network of women producing their own records and concerts in the Bay Area, and excited by the emergence of artist-controlled music, he recognized the need among gay men to also sing songs relevant to their lives.

Paul Phillips grew up studying piano and singing in choirs. After high school he went on to study music at a conservative Christian college in the midwest, where his political awareness grew and soon collided with his inability to be openly gay on campus. He eventually dropped out of school and became involved in an anti-gay discrimination case which lasted a year and a half and ended in a stalemate. He moved to Manhattan and then to San Francisco, where he met Ron Romanovsky. They fell in love and six months later began writing and performing together.

Although one critic described them as the "darlings of the gay cabaret scene," Romanovsky and Phillips prefer to think of themselves as the oddballs of the cabaret scene. Instead of molding themselves after the average torch song entertainer, they have carved out their own territory by singing about their lives openly, honestly, and with humor.

The "Night of Music and Comedy" will benefit the legal defense fund for lawsuits that challenge employee family benefits denied due to sexual orientation. Admission is $6. Tickets are available from Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, Sacramento. For more information, contact Susanne Paridis at 443-7089 or Boyce Hinman at 965-6851.★

Photo Special to The STAR

Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips will share the bill with Lea DeLaria and Jeanie Strobel for the Night of Music and Comedy sponsored by the Campaign for Family Partner Benefits at Sierra II on Friday, Feb. 3.

SAGA Bowling Tourney Slated

The Sacramento Athletic Games Association (SAGA II) Bowling Program has set Saturday, Feb. 25, as the date for a no-tap, handicap bowling tournament. The event, scheduled in response to many requests for another tournament, will take place at 2 p.m. at the Brunswick Bowl.

Entry fees will be $6 per person. Contact Jan at 391-4386 for reservations or for more information about the tournament or the SAGA II Bowling Program.

Bobby Solomon has volunteered to act as organizer for men's soccer. Anyone interested in men's soccer may contact him through SAGA II, 443-6440.

Bingo at the Mercantile Saloon Dec. 5 benefited SAGA II and the Sacramento AIDS/KS Foundation. It was presented by Bill and Randi of G.N.I.E. with the assistance of Chuck Kaye.

The next open meeting of SAGA II, which is an organization formed to send Sacramento athletes to the second Gay Games in San Francisco in 1986, is scheduled for 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 5, at the Incredible Edible. All interested people are welcome to attend.

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Valley Knights 7th Xmas Show Raises Money For AIDS/KS

The Valley Knights Motorcycle Club of Sacramento held its seventh annual Christmas Show on Saturday, December 10, 1983, at the Forum on Auburn Blvd.

The show consisted of twelve varied amateur acts. It was obvious that many of the performers were very talented, and each was well-received by the audience.

The standing-room-only crowd had a full evening of activities. In addition to the talent show, hundreds of dollars worth of door prizes were given away. Also included in the festivities was a raffle drawing. The raffle prizes were a cordless telephone and a home computer.

The Valley Knights have expressed their thanks for the support the community has given this year's Christmas Show. The event was attended by individuals and organizations from as far away as San Francisco and Reno. All of the persons who volunteered their time and energy to help make the evening the success it was are greatly appreciated.

One half of the profits from the show and all of the profits from the raffle will be donated to the Sacramento Chapter of AIDS/KS Foundation.★

RELIGION

MCC Slates January Schedule: Workshops, Preaching, Music

By PAT WARRINER

The holiday season is a special time at River City Metropolitan Community Church. And this year is no exception.

Of special interest is the New Year's Eve Watch Service, being held Saturday, December 31, at 11 p.m.

Looking ahead to January, many exciting things are being planned. On the first, the adult Sunday morning Bible study class begins a six-week series on the New Testament letter of James. Children's Bible School during Sunday morning worship also returns January 1.

Tuesday, January 3, at 7 p.m., the Rev. David Pelletier, Northwest District Coordinator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, will be presenting a workshop on "Understanding Inclusive Language." At 7 p.m. on January 10, the Rev. Pelletier will lead another workshop dealing with the subject of biblical exegesis.

Monday evenings, January 16 and 23, again at 7 p.m., Larry Dunlap of RCMCC will be giving a presentation in two parts on "Homosexuality and Scripture."

And January 30, at 8 p.m., Cyndy Naber, also on staff at RCMCC, will give a presentation on "Cults in the Religious Experience."

All of these workshops and special programs are open to the public and are being offered free of charge. Everyone interested is encouraged to attend. All will be held at the church facility at 2741 34th Street (corner of 34th Street and Broadway).

On Sunday, January 29, at 6 p.m., the RCMCC Music Department is sponsoring a special music service. Those who enjoy good old-fashioned Gospel music will especially enjoy this worship event where many of RCMCC's members will be sharing their musical talents instrumentally and vocally in ministry.

Always a wonderful experience, RCMCC's pastor, the Rev. Elder Freda Smith, will be preaching some very powerful and moving messages during 11 a.m. Sunday worship services throughout January. In her loving and gifted way, the Rev. Smith will be sharing the message of God's love for her listeners in preparation for the challenges of 1984.

Plans continue for the listing and eventual sale of the church building. In the interim, the Board of Directors has announced plans to have some exterior repairs and repainting and interior electrical wiring done. Any contractors in our community wanting to submit bids for performance of these jobs are asked to contact the church clerk, Madeline Reed, at 454-4762 or 456-4564 for more information.★

The Star is planning a feature on couples for our Valentine's Day issue of February 8. We would like to hear from you if you have an interesting story to tell about how you met your lover or if you and your lover have been together for a long time — 10, 15, 20 years or more.

Give us a call at 443-STAR or send us a letter to P.O. Box 160300, Suite 156, Sacramento 95816, before February 1.

ITEMS

Tennis Anyone?

By RICK VAN DYKE

Well, it's the end of another year. 1984, made famous in **George Orwell's** novel of intolerance and tyranny, of Newspeak and Doublespeak, is upon us. Despite the efforts of the world's leaders, we haven't yet quite reached the dismal depths foreseen by Orwell. But with American Marines bunkered in Beirut, American military "advisors" interfering with popular autonomy in Central America, and a president who seems to think that talking will make it so (on any issue, from poverty to foreign policy), we may yet sink that low. That makes it even more important for all of us to redouble our efforts for human rights, civil rights, and political action in 1984. Let's not just wish each other a **Happy New Year;** let's work to make it one!

We can start by making sure **AB1** passes the **State Senate** and is signed into law by **Governor George Deukmejian.** This important lesbian/gay employment rights bill is due for a vote soon after the Legislature reconvenes the first week in January. A few senators' votes are considered crucial. Take the time to phone or write (at the State Capitol) **Senators Robert G. Beverly, John Garamendi, Bill Lockyer, Ken Maddy, Dan McCorquodale,** and **Rose Ann Vuich.** Urge them to support this bill to extend job rights protection to gay men and lesbians.

Dr. Martin Rogers of California State University, Sacramento, will be the guest speaker for the meeting of **Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays** on Tuesday, January 3, at 7:30 p.m. in room 225 of the Carmichael Presbyterian Church, 5645 Marconi Avenue. He will speak and lead a discussion on **"Homophobia."** For more information about the meeting or about PFLAG, call **Merrill Follansbee** at 428-4348.

The Blue Mango is having a special **New Year's Brunch** on New Year's Day, from 10 a.m. till 2 p.m. The Blue Mango, which features coffee house entertainment every Thursday through Sunday from 9:30 p.m. to midnight, is at 330 G Street in Davis.

A show of photographs by **Kirstin Clements,** called **"Portraits: Street and Studio,"** will be on display at **Earhart's Cafe** from Monday, January 2, through Friday, January 27. Earhart's, at 1905 16th Street, is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. till 3 p.m.

Rick Van Dyke

SAGA II Tennis issued their first newsletter in December, a very informational and friendly publication. Tennis Coordinator **Kathi McBelt** wrote, "One of the biggest bonuses of forming this new athletic organization is that we have been meeting and befriending many individuals whom we most probably would never have met. It has been so refreshing to meet other folks in a context other than the bars." The group has established a tennis ladder composed of the top male and female tennis players in the community, determined by their play in two tournaments. Anyone may challenge any of these players; call 443-0568 for the rules. The **Men's Ladder** consists of the following players: **Garry Belcher, Ben Lawrence, Mark Harrison, Kasi Klark, Ray Duenez, Ashbury Turner, Mark Russel, Norm Frohwein, Asa Branch, Ron Bozeman, Robert Currington, Don Souza, Ernie Ruiz, Les Hurlburt, Scott Travis, Trevon, Art Funamura,** and **E. John Hilgert.** On the **Women's Ladder** are **Kathi McBelt, Debbie Belt, Linda Barnard, Kathy Vernon, Kathy Martinez, Linda Garcia, Anna Harrison, Wendy Kassis, Pat Pascua, Dawn Olmost, Joanie Bialk, Jan Hirneisen, Chris Nielson, Geri La Duke, Pamela Howard, JoAnne Smith, Stacy Deamer,** and **Carol Soderstrum.** The SAGA II Tennis Club is also planning a two-night mini-round robin **"Polar Bear" tournament** on February 8 and 9 from 6 to 9:30 p.m. The entry fee will be $3, with women playing the first night and men the second, at a location still to be announced. To help support SAGA Tennis activities, a membership fee of $5 has been established, with many benefits. To join, send your check for $5 to SAGA Tennis, 800 Bell Air Drive, Sacramento 95822.

Hats off to **La Raza del Ambiente!** This hotshot new organization collected enough food in a month to donate **Christmas Baskets** to eight needy families, most of them consisting of gay parents and their children. The food, which included a fresh roasting chicken in every basket, was donated mostly by Raza members, plus other people in the community. **Chica Rodriguez,** co-director of the group, said that next year they'll start earlier and put together an even bigger and better food drive.

One the other hand, in Los Angeles, the **Marine Corps "Toys for Tots"** program refused to collect gifts for 100 children that were donated at a gay bar's Christmas party. The Marines explained that they are very proud of their uniform and what it stands for, and so had to be very careful about where it was seen. The kids eventually got their toys; the bar found another group that was glad to take them for distribution to needy children.

The world of gay literature lost a popular and pioneering figure with the death of novelist **Mary Renault** early in December. From one of her earliest novels, the post-World War II **"The Charioteer,"** to her most recent, such as **"The Persian Boy"** and **"Fire From Heaven,"** she dealt insightfully and sympathetically with gay characters, most often in the setting of Classical Greece.

The **Old Eagle Theatre** in Old Sacramento has announced the Sacramento premiere of the play **"Mass Appeal"** by **Bill C. Davis,** with auditions on Tuesday and Wednesday, January 3 and 4, at 7 p.m. in the theatre, 925 Front Street. "Mass Appeal" is described as "a brilliantly funny yet compassionate story about the relationship between a comfortably established older priest, Father Farley, and the impassioned young seminarian, Mark, whom he reluctantly agrees to take under his wing. There is immediate conflict between the two as Mark challenges the established priest's sybaritic ways and Father Farley is appalled by Mark's confession that he had led a life of bisexual promiscuity before entering the priesthood." Opening February 3, "Mass Appeal" will play Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. through March 10. Tickets are $6 general admission; $4 for students and seniors, and are available at the EMPAC Box Office, 1419 H Street, or at all BASS outlets. For more info call 446-6761.

The Sacramento Star will present a workshop on news releases, publicity, and dealing with the media, for individuals and organizations in the lesbian/gay community. This workshop, called **"How To Publicize Your Organization or Event,"** is scheduled for Saturday, January 21. Call 443-STAR for time and place.

Have you been to see what everyone is just calling the **Vatican Art Show** at the DeYoung Museum in San Francisco? If you haven't, call BASS or drop in at the Liberty House ticket agency right away to get your tickets. It runs through mid-February and weekends are already sold out. I can't agree with the friend who said that the most wonderful thing in the whole show is the **Apollo Belvedere's** ass (though it is lovely); I most enjoyed the Byzantine miniatures and the Etruscan sculpture and pottery, and had a good laugh at some of the campy Baroque paintings, such as "The Vision of St. Helena" and "The Rest on the Flight into Egypt." But as a whole, the show even surpasses the King Tut exhibition of a couple of years ago.★

Update From The AIDS Foundation

Case Numbers Still Growing

By KATE GUZMAN

I'd like to start the New Year by thanking all those individuals, organizations, and community businesses who have given of their time, energy, and money. We at the Foundation sincerely thank the community and believe that these combined efforts have contributed much to the fight against AIDS.

The "Gift of Life" was generously donated during the Blood Sisters Drive. Thank you! Many organization and individuals participated in the drive, demonstrating a show of support from an amazing variety of sources. Everyone participated—from legislators to parents of gays to heterosexual friends. This is exactly the kind of support that is needed. "Thank you" also to the Sacramento Blood Bank for their cooperation and the YWCA for the use of their space.

An update on AIDS cases—Nationwide the number of cases of AIDS has increased from 2,416 in October, to 2,753 in November (Public Health Service). Up to November 30, the California State Department of Health Services reported 744 cases of AIDS since 1981. Thus far in December, 83 more cases have been reported, bringing the total to 826 in California.

There are some cases of AIDS among intravenous (IV) drug users in the Bay Area and several cases of women with AIDS who also are IV drug users.

Sacramento has nine cases of AIDS reported officially. It is believed there may be more. The Hand-to-Hand project, which provides emotional support to persons with AIDS and related conditions, has been busy lately. There has been an increase in the number of suspected cases in Sacramento. Waiting for a diagnosis is extremely stressful for both the patient and significant others. Fortunately, after testing, most of these persons have *not* been found to have AIDS.

The Lymph Node Syndrome/CMV support group is still open to new members. The group provides a place for people with these conditions to discuss the physical and emotional impact they are experiencing in their lives.

On a happier note, a welcome to Joan Frazzini and Bev O'Sullivan, two new Board members at the Foundation. We are very proud to have you aboard.★

For AIDS Information Call
448-AIDS

Prizes Await Top Ticket Sellers For AIDS Hawaii Raffle

Ticket sellers for the AIDS Foundation Grand Hawaiian Raffle have an opportunity to win in their own category. A number of prizes are awaiting the top ticket sellers for the February 19 raffle.

Currently the prizes include a dinner for two at Jack's Restaurant in Nevada City (Jack is including a bottle of champagne). Two cases of Baron Philippe Rothschild wine constitute two separate prizes. The wine has been donated by the Foundation Board of Directors. A hair cut and style has been donated by In Touch with You hair salon and Alta Pet Shop has given a twenty dollar gift certificate. More prizes are expected.

The Grand Prize for the winning raffle ticket is a week-long trip for two to Hawaii, hotel and air fare included. Ticket sellers are still needed and tickets may be obtained through the AIDS Foundation at 2115 J Street, #3. Phone 448-AIDS.★

GRAND HAWAIIAN RAFFLE

Grand Prize:
Trip For Two To Hawaii

Drawing to be held February 19, 1984

Donation:
$1 per ticket

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CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 28

★ The STAR is published.

★ Sacramento Men's Collective open rap. La Semilla. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.

★ AIDS Foundation Board meeting. Open to the public. AIDS Foundation office, 2115 J St., Ste. 3. 6:30 p.m.

★ Conference: Young Gays of Today. Public Library, Larkin & McAllister Sts., San Francisco. For details and pre-registration, call (415) 552-6025. 4-6:30 p.m.

Thursday, December 29

★ Blood Sisters—A Gift of Life. Women's blood donation drive sponsored by Sacramento AIDS Foundation. Sign up to donate by calling 448-AIDS or Sacramento Blood Bank at 444-6516. YWCA, 17th and L Sts. 2-8 p.m.

Saturday, December 31

★ *NEW YEAR'S EVE.* Drive safely.

Sunday, January 1

★ *NEW YEAR'S DAY.* The STAR wishes you a happy and prosperous new year!

★ Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th St. 454-4762. 11 a.m.

★ Chrysalis Neighborhood Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.

★ Transition (Gay Latter-Day Saints) Speaker/Discussion. Call 965-5084 or write 3030-B Q Street, Suite 215, Sacramento 95816. 6-9 p.m.

Monday, January 2

★ GNIE Bingo. Mercantile Saloon. 8 p.m.

★ Opening of "Portraits: Street and Studio," photographs by Kirstin Clements. Through January 27. Earhart's Cafe, 1905 16th Street. Monday-Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Tuesday, January 3

★ Capital City Squares. Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St. Call 488-2440 (days) or 486-0150 (eves). 7 p.m.

★ Auditions for "Mass Appeal." Roles for two men, ages 19-29 and 50-65. Old Eagle Theatre, 925 Front Street, Old Sacramento. 7 p.m. For more information, call 446-6761.

★ Raza del Ambiente, gay/lesbian Hispanic organization, meets. New members welcome. 7:30 p.m. Call Chica at 444-6371 for more info.

★ Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Dr. Marty Rogers speaks on homophobia. Carmichael Presbyterian Church, 5645 Marconi. Room 255. 7:30 p.m.

★ GNIE. Incredible Edible. 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 4

★ Deadline for The STAR

★ Auditions for "Mass Appeal." Roles for two men, ages 19-29 and 50-65. Old Eagle Theatre, 925 Front Street, Old Sacramento. 7 p.m. For more information, call 446-6761.

★ Rap group for the "Worried Well." Led by Tom Richardson and Jackson Peyton. AIDS/KS Foundation office, 2115 J St., Suite 3. 7:30 p.m. For info, call 448-AIDS.

★ NOW Lesbian Rights Task Force. Call Marcy, 921-2835 for info. 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 5

★ Volleyball for men and women. Sponsored by Our River City Family. $2.50 facilities fee. Call Paul, 447-1065, for info. Sacra mento City College Women's Gym. 7-11 p.m.

★ Sacramento Athletic Games Association (SAGA II) open meeting. Incredible Edible, 7 p.m.

★ Support group for women facing major life changes. Sponsored by Women Changing Direction. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J St. Child care available by prior arrangement. For info: 444-8050. 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 7

★ Orion Fellowship Alliance. Potluck and fellowship for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual Seventh Day Adventists and friends. Box 181, Sacramento 95801. Call Karen, 447-8125 for time, place, more information.

★ Our River City Family Potluck. For information, call Paul at 447-1065. 7 p.m.

Sunday, January 8

★ Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th St. 454-4762. 11 a.m.

★ Dignity/Sacramento Mass & meeting. St. Francis Church, 26th and K Streets. 3 p.m. 444-8939 for info.

★ Chrysalis Neighborhood Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.

Tuesday, January 10

★ Monthly meeting of Advocates for Lesbian & Gay State Employees. Incredible Edible. 6 p.m.

★ Capital City Squares. Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St. Call 488-2440 (days) or 486-0150 (eves). 7 p.m.

★ Raza del Ambiente, gay/lesbian Hispanic organization, meets. New members welcome. 7:30 p.m. Call Chica at 444-6371 for more info.

Wednesday, January 11

★ The STAR is published.

★ SAGA II Tennis Club meets. Open to all interested players. Stumble Inn, El Camino at Mission. 6:30 p.m. For information, call Kathi, 443-0568.

★ Clogging for beginners, presented by Ron Brewer and Sutter's Stompers. Call Joe, 441-1959, or Rich, 448-2036, for information. Volcano Room, Coloma Community Center, 4623 T Street. 7-8:30 p.m.

★ Sacramento Men's Collective facilitated workshop. La Semilla. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.

Thursday, January 12

★ Volleyball for men and women. Sponsored by Our River City Family. $2.50 facilities fee. Call Paul, 447-1065, for info. Sacramento City College Women's Gym. 7-11 p.m.

★ Support group for women facing major life changes. Sponsored by Women Changing Direction. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J St. Child care available by prior arrangement. For info: 444-8050. 7-9 p.m.

Saturday, January 14

★ SDA Kinship Potluck. 455-8940 or 485-1694 (Ren, Regional Director) for info.

Sunday, January 15

★ Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th Street. 454-4762. 11 a.m.

★ Women In Dignity. For women in or interested in the Catholic Church. 4 p.m. 444-8939 for info.

★ Transition (Gay Latter-Day Saints) Pot-

See Page 8

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BoJangle's Disco, Scandals Lounge. BoJangle's age 18 and up. 7042 Folsom Blvd. 383-9982, 381-7311.

Power Plant. Dancing, D.J.s, full liquor. 1816 21st Street.

BOOKS

Lioness Books. Sacramento's women's bookstore. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J Street. 442-4657.

FOOD

Cactus Jack's. Breakfast & lunch. 6 am-3 pm. 2007 Broadway. 456-3880.

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Luna's Cafe and Juice Bar. 1414 16th Street. 441-3931.

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Apartments, houses for rent. 448-1999.

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Philip J. Hoskins, Attorney at Law. 1813 K Street. 444-9939.

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Continental Motel. 1432 West Capitol. Pool, spa, color TV, BBQ area. 371-3660.

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New to vintage. Levi's 501s. DELUXE, 1207 21st St. 44-DELUX.

PERSONAL & MISCELLANEOUS

Roommate Matching. Have a room to rent, apartment or house to share? Need a room, or an apartment or house to share? Call Paul, 446-1171. A service of the CSUS Lesbian/Gay People's Union.

PSYCHOLOGIST

Edward E. Hall, Ph.D. Lic.#PV5552. 2222 Watt Ave., Suite B-14. 484-1212.

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Hair We Are. 2612 J Street, Suite 5. 442-6007.

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Rainforest Florist. Plants, flowers, arrangements, gifts, cards. 1927 L Street. 444-2837.

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Tower Theatre. 16th & Broadway. 443-1982.

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RIP-OFFS & ROSES

For Protection, Guard Your Credit Card Numbers

Most of us are carrying around the equivalent of a couple of thousand dollars in cash in our wallets, and as hesitant as we may be about leaving that item around for anyone else to handle, we're pretty happy-go-lucky about something just as valuable.

And that's just a string of numbers.

You may hug your purse or checkbook to your heart, hide it under the mattress while you sleep, and make a point of never carrying more than $20 in cash. But too many of you are willing—nearly eager—to give away the numbers of your credit card accounts. That can be dangerous.

The latest scenario along those lines is another telephone scam. It rings, you answer, and a voice cheerfully bubbles, "Hello, Mr. or Miss X? I have some great news for you! You have won an all-expense paid trip for two to exciting Malaysia, via Third World Airlines. How does a three-week vacation in first-class hotels sound to you?"

Of course, it sounds fine, even if you know nothing about Shyster and Shuck Marketing, the firm that supposedly has the good taste to choose you for their honor. You'll probably be too happy to pay much attention to the semi-official-sounding jargon that's being spouted to you on the phone, and you'll very likely answer any of the "harmless' questions the caller asks you.

But one of those "harmless" questions is the whole point of this otherwise meaningless exercise. There is no trip waiting for you. There is no Shyster and Shuck Company. Third World Airlines has never heard of any prize trip on their carriers. Lurking in the conversation is the kicker, that passing moment when you are asked your Visa or Mastercharge or American Express card number, "for the purposes of verification."

After the call is over, you'll wait anxiously for the mail to bring your prize certificates. But long before that never-to-happen event, you'll have another sur-"prize." That's when your statement arrives from Visa or Mastercharge or American Express with your credit line run to its limit with purchases you never made.

Plastic money is convenient for all of us. It affords easy purchases in places that would never take your personal check, a buffer against sudden emergencies, and a record of where your money goes. But as credit cards have expanded their operations, the lure of instant cash has brought many illegal scams into the field.

Con artists can use your credit card number in many ways. The most obvious is simply to use it on purchases by telephone, where the card itself is not needed. But more widespread is the phony card racket, where your number and name are actually printed on a counterfeit charge plate that looks for all the world just like your own. After printing the card, the forger uses it as often and as quickly as possible, either purchasing merchandise that can later be fenced, or buying expensive items to be returned for cash.

Why does the con artist need *your* number? Credit card companies have built-in safeguards in the numbers they assign their customers. If crooks simply fake a series of digits, they are likely to come up with a combination that sets off alarms from here to Karl Malden. They want to be sure the number will never be questioned—at least until you wise up and notify the company of its fraudulent use.

Of course, your loss and liability for fraudulent credit card usage is limited by law. In most cases, the maximum you stand to lose, personally, is $50. (Check your credit card company for its regulations on this matter.)

However, you'll go through a lot of hassle along with your minor financial headache. You'll have to notify the company of the problem. You'll have to get a new card with a new number. You'll have to pore over pages of charges to determine which are your legitimate ones and which ones your kindly phone caller ran up. And, you'll have to make sure that the company hasn't notified Credit Bureaus of your overages on the card if there is any dispute.

Learn to treat your credit cards with respect. We've made up a list of rules that you should observe. Some sound silly and petty, but believe us, you may someday be happy you took the extra precautions.

- Never give your credit card numbers to anyone over the phone, unless you are ordering merchandise from a reputable phone order company. Even in those cases, try to avoid using your card if you don't have to. Unscrupulous employees of highly-regarded firms have been known to sell credit card account numbers. Use cash, money-order, or pay C.O.D. whenever possible.
- Do *not* give your number to a stranger who asks for it on the phone, no matter what the temptation. If you're offered a marvelous prize, ask for a name and number that you can call back. Check with the Better Business Bureau or the company that supposedly sponsors the contest before you give that information to anyone.
- When you use your credit card for a purchase in a store or restaurant, ask for the used carbons as well as the receipt portion of the charge statement. Operators in the credit card scams are known to root through garbage for those forgotten carbons that clearly bear your card's imprint of name and number.
- If you use your bank's automated teller machine, be sure that no one can watch you type in your code number and credit card number. Both are as good as gold for a slick crook who memorizes one or the other and then uses them the minute you've moved away from the machine.
- Know the policy of your credit card company on reporting lost cards or misuse. Some differentiate between telephone notification and written notification on the limits of loss or the ways that your claim will be treated. A phone call to the company may be quicker, but it just might lose you the right to dispute some charges.
- As soon as you realize that your card is lost, stolen, or being used fraudulently, notify the issuing company, however. If a written letter provides you with the best claim, write it immediately and send it by Express Mail. It will cost you $9.35, but you'll be sure that you're covered, and that the company will receive your letter by the next day.

"Don't leave home without it!" shouts one credit card company. For convenience, that's true. But for safety, make sure your credit card doesn't leave home without *you.*★

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CDC Will Investigate Suspected Under-Reporting Of AIDS

Officials of the federal Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta have started an investigation to ensure that all cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome are reported to health authorities, they told The San Francisco Chronicle December 15. Their action was prompted by doubt at a November report by New York state health authorities that the rate of new cases of AIDS had decreased by 30 percent in the past three months in New York City.

The CDC officials told The Chronicle they think the apparent decrease may reflect an under-reporting of cases by gay doctors who fear the federal government may not guard their patients' confidentiality.

Dr. Richard Selik, an epidemiologist with the CDC, told The Chronicle, "We cannot say at this time that an apparent, slight decrease in numbers in New York might be due to a true decrease or simply less medical reporting of the disease."

Doctors across the country closely watch the AIDS rates in New York City because they are considered predictors of national trends for the syndrome. Case numbers in San Francisco have generally run about one year behind numbers in New York, with cases in other major urban areas following about one year behind those in San Francisco.★

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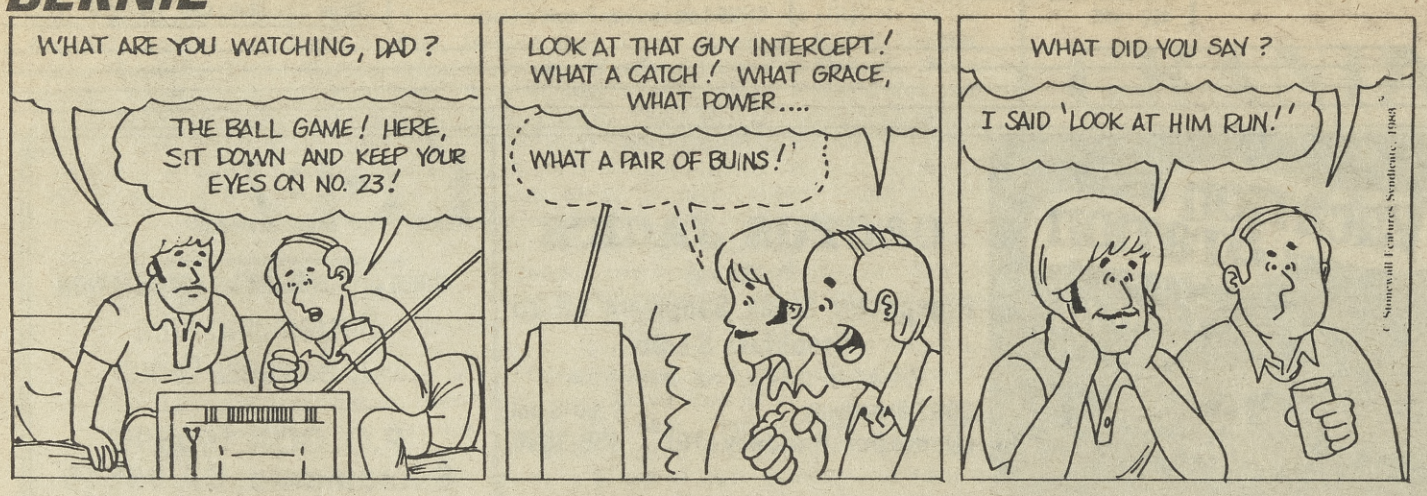
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THE BALL GAME! HERE, SIT DOWN AND KEEP YOUR EYES ON NO. 23!
LOOK AT THAT GUY INTERCEPT! WHAT A CATCH! WHAT GRACE, WHAT POWER....
WHAT A PAIR OF BUNS!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?
I SAID 'LOOK AT HIM RUN!'
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CALENDAR

From Page 7

luck/Discussion. Call 965-5084 or write 3030-B Q Street, Suite 215, Sacramento 95816. 6-9 p.m.

★ Chrysalis Neighborhood Church worship service. 3700 Y Street. 6 p.m. 736-0113 or 453-0791 for information.

★ Sacramento Men's Collective men-only potluck. 6 p.m. Call 441-1959 for place and directions.

Tuesday, January 17

★ Capital City Squares. Coloma Community Center, 46th & T St. Call 488-2440 (days) or 486-0150 (eves). 7 p.m.

★ Raza del Ambiente, gay/lesbian Hispanic organization, meets. New members welcome. 7:30 p.m. Call Chica at 444-6371 for more info.

Wednesday, January 18

★ Deadline for The STAR.

★ Clogging for beginners, presented by Ron Brewer and Sutter's Stompers. Call Joe, 441-1959, or Rich, 448-2036, for information. Volcano Room, Coloma Community Center, 4623 T Street. 7-8:30 p.m.

★ Sacramento Men's Collective business meeting. La Semilla, 312 20th St. 7:30 p.m. Call 441-1959 for information.

★ Rap group for the "Worried Well." Led by Tom Richardson and Jackson Peyton. AIDS/KS Foundation office, 2115 J St., Suite 3. 7:30 p.m. For info, call 448-AIDS.

Thursday, January 19

★ Support group for women facing major life changes. Sponsored by Women Changing Direction. First Sacramento Women's Building, 2224 J St. child care available by prior arrangement. For info: 444-8050. 7-9 p.m.

★ Volleyball for men and women. Sponsored by Our River City Family. $2.50 facilities fee. Call Paul, 447-1065, for info. Sacramento City College Women's Gym. 7-11 p.m.

Friday, January 20

★ River City Democratic Club meeting and potluck. Senior Citizens Center, 27th & J St. 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, January 21

★ "How To Publicize Your Organization or Event." A workshop on news releases, publicity, and dealing with the media. For individuals and organizations in the lesbian/gay community. Presented by The Sacramento Star. Call 443-STAR for time and place.

Sunday, January 22

★ Worship Service. Young people's rap & social hour afterwards. River City Metropolitan Community Church, 2741 34th St.